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REPORT
ON
NATIVE PAPERS
FOR THE
Week ending the 8th July 1893.

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LIST OF NEWSPAPERS.

No.	Names of newspapers.	Place of publication.	Reported number of subscribers.	Dates of papers received and examined for the week.
	BENGALI.			
	Fortnightly.			
1	"Bankura Darpan"	Bankura	360	1st July 1893.
2	"Grámvásí"	Ramkristopur, Howrah	1,000	
3	"Kaliyuga"	Calcutta	......	
4	"Kasipur Nivási"	Kasipur, Barisál	300	29th June 1893.
5	"Navamihir"	Ghatail, Mymensingh	500	
6	"Sadar-o-Mufassal"	Tahirpur, Rajshahi	650	
7	"Ulubaria Darpan"	Ulubaria	755	
	Tri-monthly.			
8	"Hitakari"	Tangail Mymensingh	800	
	Weekly.			
9	"Bangavásí"	Calcutta	20,000	1st July 1893.
10	"Banganivási-o-Prakriti"	Ditto	8,000	
11	"Burdwán Sanjivani"	Burdwan	320	27th June 1893.
12	"Cháruvártá"	Sherpur, Mymensingh	300	26th ditto.
13	"Chinsura Vártávaha"	Chinsura	......	2nd July 1883.
14	"Dacca Prakásh"	Dacca	5,000	2nd ditto.
15	"Education Gazette"	Hooghly	1,050	30th June 1893.
16	"Hindu Ranjiká"	Boalia, Rajshahi	212	
17	"Hitavádí"	Calcutta	3,000	29th ditto.
18	"Murshidábád Pratinidhi"	Berhampore	......	30th ditto.
19	"Pratikár"	Ditto	611	30th ditto.
20	"Rangpur Dikprakásh"	Kakinia, Rangpur	170	
21	"Sahachar"	Calcutta	800-1,000	28th ditto.
22	"Samaj-o-Sáhitya"	Garibpore, Nadia	1,000	2nd July 1893.
23	"Samaya"	Calcutta	3,000	30th June 1893.
24	"Sanjívaní"	Ditto	4,000	1st July 1893.
25	"Sansodhiní"	Chittagong	......	2nd, 9th, 16th June 1893.
26	"Sáraswat Patra"	Dacca	(300—400)	1st July 1893.
27	"Som Prakásh"	Calcutta	800	3rd ditto.
28	"Srimanta Sadagar"	Ditto	......	
29	"Sudhákar"	Ditto	3,600	30th June 1883.
	Daily.			
30	"Banga Vidyá Prakáshiká"	Calcutta	500	30th June, 1st, 3rd and 4th July 1893.
31	"Bengal Exchange Gazette"	Ditto	......	
32	"Dainik-o-Samáchár Chandriká"	Ditto	1,500	2nd to 6th July 1893.
33	"Samvád Prabhákar"	Ditto	1,435	30th June, 3rd, 5th and 6th July 1893.
34	"Samvád Purnachandrodaya"	Ditto	300	30th June, 1st and 3rd to 6th ditto.
35	"Sulabh Dainik"	Ditto	......	30th June, 1st and 3rd to 5th ditto.
	ENGLISH AND BENGALI.			
	Weekly.			
36	"Dacca Gazette"	Dacca	500-600	3rd July 1893.
	HINDI.			
	Monthly.			
37	"Darjeeling Mission ke Másik Samáchar Patrika."	Darjeeling	400	
	Weekly.			
38	"Aryávarta"	Dinapore	750	
39	"Bihar Bandhu"	Bankipore	500	
40	"Bhárat Mitra"	Calcutta	1,500	22nd June 1893.
41	"Champaran Chandrika"	Bettiah	350	
42	"Desí Vyápári"	Calcutta	......	
43	"Hindi Bangavásí"	Ditto	5,000	
	URDU.			
	Weekly			
44	"Akhbar-i-Al Punch"	Bankipore	750	22nd ditto.
45	"Anis"	Patna	......	
46	"Calcutta Punch"	Calcutta	......	
47	"Darussaltanat and Urdu Guide"	Ditto	300	24th June and 3rd July 1893.
48	"General and Gauhariasti"	Ditto	410	23rd and 29th Juue 1893.
49	"Mehre Monawar"	Muzaffarpur	......	
50	"Reis-ul-Akhbar-i-Murshidabad"	Murshidabad	150	
51	"Setare Hind"	Arrah	......	
52	"Shokh"	Monghyr	100	

No.	Names of newspapers.	Place of publication.	Reported number of subscribers.	Dates of papers received and examined for the week.
	URIYA.			
	Monthly.			
53	"Asha"	Cuttack ...	80	
54	"Echo"	Ditto ...	......	
55	"Pradíp"	Ditto ...	......	
56	"Samyabadi"	Ditto ...	......	
57	"Taraka and Subhavártá"	Ditto ...	......	
58	"Utkalprabhá"	Baripada ...	250	
	Weekly.			
59	"Dipaka"	Cuttack ...	......	
60	"Samvad Váhika"	Balasore ...	225	
61	"Uriya and Navasamvád"	Ditto ...	420	
62	"Utkal Dípiká"	Cuttack ...	400	
	PAPERS PUBLISHED IN ASSAM.			
	BENGALI.			
	Fortnightly.			
63	"Paridarshak"	Sylhet ...	480	For the first fortnight of Asar, 1390 B.S.
64	"Silchar"	Silchar ...	250	

I.—FOREIGN POLITICS.

SUDHAKAR,
June 30th, 1893.

Beluchistan.

THE *Sudhákar* of the 30th June says that virtually Beluchistan now forms a part of the British dominions, and Khan Khodadad will spend the remainder of his life as a pensioner. Beluchistan now stands in the condition of Manipur.

II.—HOME ADMINISTRATION.

(*a*)—*Police.*

SANSODHINI,
June 2nd, 1893.

A murder by a lady in Chittagong.

2. The *Sansodhini* of the 2nd June requests the Chief Secretary to the Bengal Government to make an enquiry into the moral character of Jogesh Babu, the Settlement Kanungo in Chittagong, whose first wife, Rajeswari, has been brought up for trial for the murder of his so-called second wife, Rajlakshmi.

BURDWAN SANJIVANI,
June 27th, 1893.

The extra police in the district of Gaya.

3. The *Burdwan Sanjivani* of the 27th June refers to the Government order placing an extra police force in eight villages within the Arungabad subdivision of the Gaya district, and observes as follows:—

This is the first time that such a method has been resorted to in Bengal with the object of preserving the peace. The British Government never punishes anybody until the offence with which he is charged is proved in open court. But has the guilt of the people of the villages on which an extra police has been quartered been proved in that manner? And are these people really so unruly that there is no other way of preserving the peace among them except by quartering an extra police force among them? There seems to be no necessity for a measure of this kind in a country like India, where the people are so peaceful and law-abiding. Government should have made a thorough enquiry into this matter, and not issued its order merely on the strength of the report submitted by the Magistrate, who is the head of the police. It is certainly not proper to punish the whole population of these villages for the offence of a few unruly characters among them. Governent should revise its order on the subject.

KASIPUR NIVASI,
June 29th, 1893.

A constable of the Barisal town police.

4. The *Kasipur Nivasi* of the 29th June says that a constable of the Barisal town police, named Kamal Singh, has built for himself a pucka house in Barisal on the north of the Sadar distillery. The Magistrate, the Commissioner and the Deputy Collector in charge of the distillery frequently come that way, and one does not know what thought the sight of the building raises in their minds. As for the writer, he cannot believe that the income of an ordinary police constable is higher than that of a court peon.

SUDHAKAR,
June 30th, 1893.

Riot cases in Bengal.

5. Referring to a recent article in the *Indian Daily News* on the subject of riot cases in Bengal, the *Sudhákar* of the 30th June says that the *Daily News* has viewed the subject in one aspect only, and has ignored a good many questions connected therewith. In Bengal Hindus and Muhammadans seldom fall out with each other over religious questions. Most of the riots which have of late years taken place in India between Hindus and Muhammadans on religious grounds have occurred in the North-Western Provinces, and even these could have been prevented by greater vigilance on the part of the police and by the adoption of timely precautionary measures. The best way for averting these religious riots is for the police to seek the mediation of the leaders of the two communities when their occurrence seems imminent. And these riots will not, it is certain, be put down if this course is not adopted.

The riots which are very common in Bengal are those between raiyats and zamindars. In these cases, though the police send up both the parties, it is the aggressors who ought to be punished. It need hardly be said that in these riots the zamindar is generally the aggressor. The most stubborn and wicked among the raiyats have not the courage to do more than to withhold their rents from the zamindar. For such withholding of his rent by the raiyat the zamindar has the Civil Court to go to for redress, and there is therefore no cause or occasion for a breach of the public peace. But the zamindar generally prefers to take the law into his own hands, and the consequence is a serious riot. It may be stated with confidence that it is the oppression which zamindars commit upon their raiyats in this way which is the sole cause of this class of riots, and when zamindars become implicated in riots like these, they ought to be severely punished. But in the courts of this country the truth does not always come to light, and real culprits are therefore often acquitted, and the innocent are convicted and punished. The zamindar being the stronger party is better able than the raiyat to secure the services of good legal advisers, and can often win over witnesses by bribes, and not even the police which has charge of the preliminary investigation is always above temptation. The *Indian Daily News* rightly says that "the policeman's conscience is not a morbidly tender one;" he is even willing to perjure himself."

It is therefore necessary for the ends of justice that all riot cases in Bengal should be investigated by the District Magistrate himself.

While on this subject, the writer cannot help referring to the strained feeling which has been existing for some time between the raiyats and some of the zamindars of the Mymensingh district. He once more requests the zamindars to forbear oppressing their raiyats. Recently two murders took place within the zamindari of a big zamindar of that district, and some of the zamindar's men have been committed to the Sessions, and some of the raiyats have been charged with rioting. The cases being *sub judice* no comments can be made on them. But the writer asks the officers who will have to try the cases to enquire into the cause of the riot to ascertain whether it did not originate in illegal exactions and other oppressions by the zamindar.

Justice cannot be secured in riot cases so long as the judiciary depend entirely on evidence adduced by the police. The writer quite agrees with the *Indian Daily News* that "the situation is of course deplorable and such as no civilised Government could regard with equanimity."

SUDHAKAR,
June 30th, 1893.

The Rangoon riots.

6. The same paper says that a serious affair like the late Rangoon riot has not been heard of for a long time. Judging from the reports which have appeared in the press, the Mussulmans of Rangoon seem to be the party who deserve to be blamed. Did the Rangoon Mussulmans consider it a necessary part of their religion to kill cows in or near a Hindu temple? The leaders of the Muhammadan community of Rangoon are also to blame, for they could have averted the calamity by their timely intervention.

SANJIVANI,
July 1st, 1893.

A religious persecution in the 24-Parganas.

7. The *Sanjívani* of the 1st July says that some young Hindu revivalists in the village of Majilpur, within the jurisdiction of the Jaynagur thana, in the 24-Parganas, have taken to persecuting Babu Kalinath Datta, a respectable Brahmo gentleman of the village. Lately one night when Babu Kalinath was sitting on his open verandah, a heavy piece of brickbat came flying into his compound, and fell on the ground at a short distance from where he sat. Fortunately no one was hurt. The matter was reported to the police, but it is not known whether the daroga of the thana entered the complaint in his diary. The writer requests the District Magistrate of the 24-Parganas to keep a sharp eye on the people who persecute Babu Kalinath and see to his safety.

BANKURA DARPAN,
July 1st, 1893.

Thefts and dacoities in the district of Bankura.

8. The *Bankura Darpan* of the 1st July says that thefts and dacoities are on the increase in the district of Bankura. The police ascribes this increase to the prevalence of distress among the people, and Government which has done nothing to put down this distress must accept this explanation without demur. In a village named Onda, where there are a thana and lots of police officers, including a daroga, six thefts, attended with house-breaking, were committed in the course of one night. On the 17th April last a theft was committed in the house of one Darpanarayan Mandal, of the village of Hosputar, and the fact was brought to the knowledge of the police only the other day. Reports of thefts and dacoities are coming from all parts of the district, and Government ought to do something to put them down.

CHINSURA VARTAVAHA, July 2nd, 1893.

A police outpost in the Hooghly district.

9. A correspondent of the *Chinsura Vartavaha* of the 2nd July has heard it said that the Bansberia outpost in the Hooghly district is going to be abolished, and says that the abolition of the outpost will increase crime in the place. As it is, one murder and several thefts take place in Bansberia every year, and the police generally fail to trace the offenders. The *badmashes* of the place will become more daring if the outpost is abolished.

DARUSSALTANAT AND URDU GUIDE, July 3rd, 1893.

The *Bukreed* riots.

10. The *Darussaltanat and Urdu Guide* of the 3rd July is glad that the *Bukreed* festival has passed off quietly in most of the places where disturbances might have been expected, but regrets the occurrence of a riot at Azimgarh. The cause of the present tension of religious feeling between Hindus and Muhammadans lies in the growth of a spirit of religious intolerance in the former under the influence of English education.

DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR CHANDRIKA, July 4th, 1893.

The Rangoon riots.

11. The *Dainik-o-Samachar Chandrika* of the 4th July approves of the efforts of the authorities to put down the riots in Rangoon, and thinks that the Mussulmans have themselves to thank for the rough handling they have received from the police and the magistracy, for it is they who first broke the peace, killed innocent Hindus, and shot at the police. The subsequent action of the police in firing upon the Mussulman mob was evidently necessitated by considerations of self-defence and the restoration of the public peace. It is notorious that at this moment all over India, including Burma, the Mussulmans appear a little excited, and the undue encouragement given them by Government has also made them a little reckless and defiant. Rightly or wrongly, the Mussulman has got into his head the idea that Government favours him more than it favours the Hindu, and that possibly it also fears him. It is never good policy to unduly encourage or repress any particular community. Government has, however, for some time past shown undue favour to the Mussulmans, and in matters affecting Hindus and Mussulmans has occasionally adopted a policy of repression towards the former. A strictly impartial policy is the best guarantee of public peace. As regards the riots, it is satisfactory to learn that they have been at last put down. But the authorities should not relax their vigilant attitude until the Mohurrum has passed off quietly.

(*b*)—*Working of the Courts.*

HITAVADI, June 29th, 1893.

The Benares punkha-puller case.

12. The *Hitavadi* of the 29th June has the following:—

John Rigby, of Benares, who kicked a punkha-puller to death, has been sentenced to a fine of Rs. 100. And surely the value of a punkha-cooly's life cannot be more than that! Who shall say after this that the black natives and white Englishmen are equal in the eye of the law? The writer would like to know whether Mr. Rigby's countrymen will not now raise the amount of the fine by subscription among themselves.

SULABH DAINIK, June 30th, 1893.

Punishment of wife-murder by Hindus.

13. The *Sulabh Dainik* of the 30th June has the following:—

Alas! King Rama has passed away, and with him the happy kingdom of Ayodhya over which he reigned. When the writer calls to mind the fact that female unchastity is encouraged under British rule in this land of female chastity, he forgets the many benefits of that rule, and his recollection of the old Hindu Kings of India returns to him to increase his sorrow. The chastity of English women sells very cheap, and the writer can give innumerable examples to prove that it is so. But the chastity of the Indian woman is a thing without price, and there is not a man that can dare purchase it with money! This being the case, it is intolerable to the people of India that chastity should be slighted and unchastity encouraged in their country. The other day a young man in the district of Hooghly detected his wife in the act of cohabitation with another man, and losing his senses killed her in a fit of anger. And in the opinion of the writer there is not a man whom the sight of his wife in the embraces of another man, does not rouse to anger. Now, this young man against whom there was no direct evidence of any kind has been sentenced by the Sessions Judge of Hooghly to transportation for life merely on the strength of the statement made by a boy of 7, his deceased wife's brother. Strange justice this! The people of this country cannot appreciate such justice, because Hindu blood runs in their veins. English Judges cannot possibly have any idea of what a Hindu feels under the circumstances in which the young man was placed. The sight of his wife's adultery was sufficient provocation; and a lighter punishment should have been inflicted on him.

BANGAVASI,
July 1st, 1893.

An order of the District Judge of Tippera.

14. The *Bangavasi* of the 1st July has heard that Mr. Geake, Officiating District Judge of Tippera, has framed a routine of business under which every Subordinate Judge in the district will have to dispose of at least six contested appeal cases every day, and says that, if true, this will mean not dispensation of justice, but clearing of files. If Government wants only the files of the Courts to be cleared, then the farce of hearing cases should be dispensed with altogether, orders upon them being directed to be passed without examination of records and witnesses.

SANJIVANI,
July 1st, 1893.

Babu Syamapada Chaudhuri, Deputy Magistrate of Jalpaiguri.

15. A correspondent of the *Sanjivani* of the 1st July writing from Hazaribagh says that the charges against Babu Syamapada Chaudhuri, Deputy Magistrate of Jalpaiguri, published in a recent issue of this paper (R. N. P., for week ending 1st July, paragraph 6) are very serious indeed. If the charges prove to be correct, the Deputy Magistrate ought not to be allowed to administer justice; but if they are found to be false, the calumniator ought to be severely punished.

If Government undertakes an enquiry into the Deputy Magistrate's alleged conduct at Jalpaiguri, it should also make an investigation into his conduct while he was at Hazaribagh. In making this latter enquiry, the following points should be especially attended to:—

(1) Whether or not a sworn affidavit was filed bringing serious charges against Babu Syamapada by a gentleman at Hazaribagh.

(2) Whether the pleaders and other respectable persons of Hazaribagh did not warn the Deputy Magistrate in view of the accusations which were made against him.

(3) Whether Syamapada Babu took any steps in regard to the charges brought against him in the *Indian Mirror*.

(4) Whether the people of Hazaribagh did not say regarding Syamapada Babu all that the people of Jalpaiguri are now saying against him.

SANJIVANI,

Mr. Mackertich, Subdivisional Officer of Sasaram.

16. Referring to the case against Tegha Khan, a daftri in the Court of Mr. Mackertich, Subdivisional Officer of Sasaram, who was charged by one Udit Chamba with having received for the Subdivisional Officer a bribe, the same paper cannot understand why both the Magistrate who tried the case in the first instance, and the District Judge who heard it in appeal, though convicting the daftri, did not consider it necessary even to enquire into the truth or otherwise of the allegation made against Mr. Mackertich. If the allegation was false, why was not Walker, who is stated to have got up the case, prosecuted by Mr. Mackertich? And why was not the complainant, who said in open Court that Mr. Mackertich had personally asked for a bribe from him, convicted and punished? Government added to its prestige and reputation by removing Trailokyanath Mitra who was proved to have accepted bribes, and it is proper that it should make an investigation into the allegations made against Mr. Makertich.

BANKURA DARPAN,
July 1st, 1893.

Road cess administration in the district of Bankura.

17. The *Bankura Darpan* of the 1st July says that, though the attention of the authorities has been repeatedly drawn to irregularities connected with the revaluation of the road cess in the district of Bankura, nothing has yet been done in the matter. The authorities ought to direct their enquiries to the following points:—

(1) What rules have been followed in fixing the valuation of estates for road cess purposes, and whether or not the valuation has been fixed at an improperly high rate?

(2) How many certificates have been issued in the name of deceased persons, and how many estates belonging to deceased persons have been sold?

(3) How much fine, imposed without reason, has been collected?
(4) How the cess, barred by limitation, has been collected?
(5) How have the objections relating to the assessment of the cess been disposed of?

DACCA GAZETTE,
July 3rd, 1893.

The Naraingan school-boy case.

18. The *Dacca Gazette*, of the 3rd July, says that in the Narainganj school-boy case the accused, Mr. Palmer, has been let off with a small fine of five rupees because he urged the plea of sudden provocation. But it is difficult to see how so much importance has been attached to this plea, considering that the accused admitted, in justification of his action, that he and his wife had on a previous occasion been similarly insulted by the boys—an admission which amounted to saying that the accused entertained an old grudge against them. And the action of the accused was the more unjustifiable as he could not say that the complainant was one of the boys who had insulted him and his wife on the previous occasion. The nominal fine inflicted on Mr. Palmer will not therefore meet the ends of justice, specially when the injured party is a weak, tender lad of ten years of age, and the wrong-doer is a full-grown, strong-bodied Englishman. Would the same fine have been deemed sufficient for a strong-bodied native who might have struck a tender English lad of ten years? Would not such conduct on the part of a native have excited the direst anger of the whole Anglo-Indian community? And would not the Calcutta Defence Association have in that case engaged the services of the best Counsel for the purpose of securing the heaviest sentence for the accused, and advanced many political reasons too for such punishment? But the Magistrate in this case has not even considered it necessary to call upon Mr. Palmer to bring witnesses in support of his defence.

SOM PRAKASH,
July 3rd, 1893.

The Calcutta Small Cause Court.

19. The *Som Prakash* of the 3rd July says that the number of Judges in the Calcutta Small Cause Court ought to be increased. Cases in that Court are not now quickly disposed of, and suitors therefore suffer great inconvenience. The Judges of that Court now get large salaries; these may be curtailed, and the saving thus effected utilised by appointing more Judges on smaller pay. There should only be one or two Judges on large salaries to decide intricate cases.

DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR CHANDRIKA,
July 3rd, 1893.

The District Magistrate of Tippera.

20. The *Dainik-o-Samáchár Chandriká* of the 3rd July says that Babu Prabhat Chandra Nag, Zamindar of Tippera, who was convicted by the District Magistrate for disobedience of a summons, has been acquitted on appeal by the District Judge of Dacca. The Magistrate ought to be taught a lesson. It is hoped that Sir Antony MacDonnell will do justice in the matter.

(*c*)—*Jails.*

BANGAVASI,
July 1st, 1893.

Jail mortality in 1892.

21. The *Bangavasi* of the 1st July says that the authorities have explained the unusual mortality in the Bengal jails last year by saying that it was owing to the prevailing scarcity. This explanation is no doubt to a great extent correct. But did the authorities admit the prevalence of scarcity and the consequent starvation of the people when the scarcity and the starvation actually prevailed? And what explanation will Government give of the fact that no relief measures were adopted at that time?

(*d*)—*Education.*

SANJIVANI,
July 1st, 1893.

The quarrel in the Rurki College.

22. The *Sanjivani* of the 1st July says that the Principal of the Rurki Engineering College having ordered the students of the lower department to carry the chains themselves when surveying, the students have taken the order as an insult, and have left the College in a body. The Principal ought to remember that the standard of honour and respectability entertained by gentlemen and sons of gentlemen in this country is very different from that entertained in England. A schoolboy in England may not consider it degrading to carry out such an order as has been passed by the Principal of the Rurki College, but in this country boys of gentle birth consider it humiliating to do what even tindals or head khalasis deem degrading. The Principal's ignorance of the customs of the people of this

country is the sole cause of this rupture between him and his pupils, and it is to be hoped that Government will instruct him not to disregard the boys' feelings in his future conduct towards them.

(*e*)—*Local Self-Government and Municipal Administration.*

BURDWAN SANJIVANI,
June 27th, 1893.

The Burdwan Sadar Local Board.

23. The *Burdwan Sanjivani* of the 27th June has the following:—

The Burdwan Sadar Local Board has sanctioned Rs. 2,000 for the construction of roads in the villages within its jurisdiction; and it proposes to spend the whole of this sum in improving the state of the communications between different villages, and will not allow any part of it to be spent in repairing the roads within the villages themselves. But most of the roads within the villages stand in need of repair. Water accumulates in them during the rains, and they become unfit for cart traffic. Thus, if these roads in the interior of the villages are not improved, the export trade of this part of the district will suffer. It is therefore hoped that the Board will modify its order about the application of its road grant.

SAHACHAR,
June 28th, 1893.

Damaged houses in Calcutta.

24. The *Sahachar* of the 28th June says that as many houses in Calcutta have collapsed in consequence of the recent heavy rainfall and many more are probably in an unsound condition, it is the duty of the municipality to inspect large houses in the town, such as school buildings, factories, &c., where lots of people congregate, with a view to ascertain their condition.

HITAVADI,
June 29th, 1893.

Complaints against the District Board of Bogra

25. In the *Hitavadi* of the 29th June a correspondent complains that though the people of the village Raikali in the Bogra district have to pay more than Rs. 500 every year as road cess, they have got no good roads in their village. Want of proper drainage also makes their village damp and malarious. The District Board is requested to construct a road from Beragram to the Tilakpur Railway station and to improve the healthiness of the place by proper drainage.

SAMAY,
June 30th, 1893.

A cattle-pound in the Tangail subdivision of the Mymensingh district.

26. The Tangail correspondent of the *Samay* of the 30th June writes thus:—Some time ago Government established a cattle-pound at Bhajnaite within the jurisdiction of the Mirjapur outpost in the Tangail subdivision of the Mymensingh district. The pound is now held by a Mussulman. The former pound-keeper, finding himself a loser in the concern, gave up the lease. And immediately after the pound passed into the hands of the new lessee, the cultivators of the neighbourhood have begun to lose one or two cows from their houses every night, only to find them, after a great deal of search, in the pound in question. The poor peasants are at a loss to understand how their cows, however well tethered, find their way into the pound. They have to pay six annas for every cow. The pound-keeper cannot give the names of the persons who bring these cows to the pound.

BANGAVASI,
July 1st, 1893.

The Nadia District Board.

27. The *Bangavasi* of the 1st July considers it an unmistakeable proof of the self-governing capacity of the members of the District Board of Nadia that the roads in the Ranaghat subdivision of that district are in a miserable condition. The question therefore arises, to whom are the Ranaghat people to complain of their grievance? Their District Board is very anxious to open a railway line between Ranaghat and Krishnagar, though the roads in the interior of the subdivision are in such a bad condition. Very worthy representatives of the people these Board men no doubt.

SARASWAT PATRA,
July 1st, 1893.

Condition of the streets in the Dacca city.

28. The *Saraswat Patra* of the 1st July complains of the exceedingly bad condition of the streets and roads in the Dacca city. They are so full of mud in this rainy season that the Municipal authorities ought to repair them at once.

BANKURA DARPAN,
July 1st, 1893.

Ferries in the Bankura district.

29. The *Bankura Darpan* of the 1st July says that, though the District Board of Bankura derives a large income from the ferries under it, yet it keeps no eye over their management. There are many ferries where there are no boats at all, and people are obliged to swim over as best they can.

(*g*)—*Railways and communications, including canals and irrigation.*

SULABH DAINIK,
July 3rd, 1893.

Ill-treatment of passengers on the Goalundo-Narainganj steamer line.

30. The *Sulabh Dainik* of the 3rd July has learnt from a special correspondent that on the 20th and 22nd June last, the captain of the steamer *Crocodile* plying between Goalundo and Narainganj vilely abused the third class passengers, and even kicked them with boots on. Considering that the steamer line between Goalundo and Narainganj belongs to Government, it is hoped that the authorities will enquire into the conduct of the captain. Unless proper notice is taken of the present affair, the habit of ill-treating passengers will infect the very khalasis.

The writer must ask the passengers who were travelling on the occasion referred to above how they brooked the Saheb's kicks in silence. Had they no blood then in their veins? Are they men utterly devoid of manliness? Is their blood so cold that even kicks and tramplings under foot fail to rouse them to anger? Even a dog will not let its aggressor pass unhurt, and were these passengers who were thus insulted a more hateful class of creatures even than dogs? They formed the bulk of the passengers in the steamer, and why did they not retaliate on the spot? The least manliness displayed then and there would have saved them from such insult as they quietly received, and made it unnecessary for them to suffer the further humiliation of seeking redress for such a wrong through the medium of the press.

(*h*)—*General.*

SAHACHAR,
June 28th, 1893.

The solution of the Currency question.

31. The *Sahachar* of the 28th June has the following on the subject of the new Currency law:—

The new law fixing the price of the rupee at 1*s.* and 4*d.* has made India a gainer to the extent of 10 lakhs of pounds and Government has been spared the necessity of imposing a new tax in response to the cry raised by its European officers. Government has not therefore done a wrong thing by passing the new law. Still by passing it all on a sudden, it has given another proof of its usual short-sightedness. Many people will suffer pecuniary loss in consequence of this new measure. The price of the sovereign has now been fixed at Rs. 15, and those who purchased sovereigns at the old rate of Rs. 15-2 or thereabout apiece will be losers in consequence of this fall in its price. Similar effects were produced by the sudden increase of the import duty on salt. The writer does not agree with those who say that the value of a currency cannot be fixed by law. If there had been any truth in this doctrine, the gold and silver currencies of England and France would not have remained unaffected by the fall in the price of silver relatively to gold. But then this fixing of the value of a currency by means of legislation has one danger connected with it—it may lead to surreptitious coinage, and it is hoped that Government will be able to successfully guard against this danger. Some people say that the fall in the silver market has been favourable to the export trade of India, and that the fixing of the price of gold in rupee will injure that trade. The writer cannot accept this view without trial. Wheat is the principle article of export from India. And as both Italy and France take Indian wheat, and as the only other wheat-exporting country—the United States of America—is in the midst of the silver difficulty, India's export trade in wheat is not likely to suffer in consequence of the present currency legislation. But her export trade in tea and coffee may to a certain extent suffer. And in order that this consequence may be averted, the Indian authorities should ask the Government in England to reduce the import duty on these articles. They can base this request on India's right to export her articles freely. All things considered, Government cannot be said to have done wrong, and the public ought to accept its solution.

SAHACHAR.

The Statutory Civil Service.

32. The same paper has the following on the subject of the Statutory Civil Service:—

Recently a native officer of Government asked a high European official:—"Now that the Statutory Service has been abolished, when shall we get the posts recommended for us by the Public Service Commission"? To which the official replied with a laugh: "Yes, many things are written on paper. That you yourselves will get these posts is out of the question, and do not even think that your children will get them." The reply would have surprised nobody if it had come from one of the party who often call the Queen's Proclamation a bit of waste paper, and who have suspended the operation of a Parliamentary Act of 1870. But the question is, will the people among whom the Congress has made its appearance and who have obtained the right to elect members for the Legislative Council allow the Civilians to enjoy a monopoly of all high posts under Government? When the Public Service Commission recommended the abolition of the Statutory Civil Service, the writer, under the evil influence of certain England-returned native gentlemen, made no objection. And every other writer in the native press, with the exception of the editor of the *Amrita Bazar Patrika*, lost his head over this point.

Lord Dufferin's Poona speech had led them to think that the Civil Service Examination would begin to be held in India, and they therefore thought that they could afford to lose the Statutory Service. The *Amrita Bazar*, however, was singing a note of warning all the while, and pointed out the folly of giving up something certain in the hope of getting something uncertain. The writer would therefore advise his countrymen to submit a petition to Parliament stating how the hope which Lord Dufferin's speech raised in the minds of the people of this country has not been fulfilled, and how the Government of India and the Secretary of State have on their own authority abolished the Parliamentary Statute of 1870, which created the Statutory Service. That Statute remained a dead-letter for several years after its passing, until in 1878 Mr. Lalmohon Ghosh got up a meeting in London to discuss the subject, and orders were consequently passed admitting the natives of India to the Statutory Service. Lord Lytton was then Governor-General of India. He disliked the idea of making appointments to the Statutory Service under the Statute of 1870, and he therefore proposed that the matter should be left to the discretion of the Viceroy. The Conservatives were then in power, but the Secretary of State nevertheless wrote him in reply that he could not make any such proposal before the House, where it was sure to be indignantly rejected. Now, what the then Secretary of State could not do publicly has been done by Lord Dufferin in an indirect manner. Lord Dufferin took the Native Press of India to task for having expressed themselves sceptically about the results of the Public Service Commission. He called their doubts unjust, advised the people to wait, and promised them much good in future. The people have waited, but the good that was promised to them has not come. The Commission have in the meantime given their report, and the little advantage the people possessed has been taken away from them. If Lord Dufferin had been permanent ruler of India, the people could have gone up to him to remind him of his promise to them. As it is, his successor is not bound to give effect to his promise. It is also useless to expect any redress at the hands of a man like Lord Lansdowne. No one ever obtained any redress at his hands, as is clear from the results of the Cashmere, Rewa, and Manipur petitions. If His Excellency had been a strong ruler, there would not have been so much complaining among the people during his administration. For redress the people must look up to Parliament. Mr. Gladstone is now the Prime Minister of England, and he will not knowingly tolerate any wrong. Lord Kimberley is now Secretary of State for India, and he has shown by his acts that he is always ready to remove the grievances of the people. An Indian party has grown up among the members of Parliament, and Mr. Paul's motion for holding the Civil Service Examination simultaneously in England and India has been carried. The present is therefore an excellent opportunity for making an attempt to revive the abolished Statutory Service. And as both Conservatives and Liberals dislike the idea of natives entering the Civil Service in large numbers, they will lend a willing ear to the proposal. Moreover, the fact that the Governor-General and the Secretary of State had no power to abolish a Service which was created by a Parliamentary Statute will speak for itself. There ought to be no delay in petitioning Parliament on the subject. The Congress Committee can take up the matter. In the meantime where is the harm if a question is put in the House on the subject?

HITAVADI,
June 29th, 1893.

The Currency orders.

33. The *Hitavadi* of the 29th June says that the settlement of the exchange question as made by Government will not remove the difficulty. The increase of the value of silver coins by artificial means will cause harm instead of good. The

value of silver is sure to fall. The orders issued by Government have created a great alarm among those having stores of silver. Not even the English merchants are pleased with the measure taken by Government, their organ, the *Capital*, writing thus:—"The course adopted will create widespread dissatisfaction and cause very serious disturbance and loss."

Such an important measure should not have been passed in consultation with the official members only.

HITAVADI,
June 29th, 1893.

The Rural Sub-Registrar of Kasba, in the Tippera district.

34. In the same paper a correspondent writing from Kasba in the Tippera district complains against the Rural Sub-Registrar of the place (1) that want of seats in the Registry Office causes much inconvenience to the public, (2) that the Sub-Registrar does not allow any other measure than *bighas* and *kathas* to be used in the deeds that are brought before him for registration, though the prevailing measure in the district is that of *kali*, *drona*, &c., a measure which is used in the records of the Raj estate and which is accepted even in the Government cadastral survey.

HITAVADI.

Mr. Phillips at Monghyr.

35. In the same paper another correspondent complains against Mr. Phillips, Magistrate and Collector of Monghyr, in the following manner:—

(1) Mr. Phillips has used his influence to have two respectable native zamindars removed from the District Board in order to make room for two Englishmen—the District Superintendent of Police and the Railway Locomotive Superintendent at Jamalpur. By thus lessening the number of the native members of the District Board, he has greatly impaired that self-governing institution.

(2) There are some municipal benches for the public on the river side. In 1889 Mr. Ramsay, the then District Superintendent of Police, prohibited native gentlemen to sit on them. Mr. Coxhead, who was Magistrate of the place at that time, one day found some constables driving away native gentlemen from those seats, and having learnt that they were ordered by the District Superintendent to act as they had done, he called for an explanation from Mr. Ramsay; and natives have been from that time allowed to sit on those benches. But Mr. Phillips has now passed a prohibitory order again and posted constables there to see that his order is not disobeyed. Municipal benches are public property, and why should they be used only by *Sahibs*?

SAMAY,
June 30th, 1893.

The settlement of the Exchange question.

36. The *Samay* of the 30th June thus writes on the currency question:—

The settlement of the Exchange question, as recommended by the Herschell Committee, is not satisfactory, and it is doubtful whether the anticipations of the Viceroy about the good which India is likely to derive from it in future will ever be fulfilled, though some present advantage has been secured by the fixing of the rate of Exchange. The Governor-General and the members of his Council may think that gold coins can be in future safely introduced in this country, and then the Exchange difficulty will be removed for ever. But it is clear that that will never be. The use of silver coin will suffer by the introduction of gold coins, and silver will consequently become cheap, and the value of gold coins, as fixed in relation to silver coins, will not remain stationary. And thus the Exchange difficulty will again afflict the Indians. It is needless to say that gold coins cannot be used in a country in which the *couri* is still used as a medium of exchange.

SULABH DAINIK,
June 30th, 1893.

The effects of the solution of the currency question.

37. The *Sulabh Dainik* of the 30th June says that the rise of the value of the rupee in consequence of the recent currency legislation will affect India's trade in those articles which have to compete with the products of English manufacture, and that in the following way:—Both Bombay and Manchester produce and export piece-goods. Now, as the rupee has risen in value, the merchants of Manchester will make larger profits out of their piece-goods trade than they used to do before. This will serve as an impetus to them to increase their exports and to cheapen their fabrics. And that will mean considerable loss to Bombay men whose goods will be driven from the market.

BANGAVASI,
July 1st 1893.

Government orders in the Medical Department.

38. The *Bangavasi* of the 1st July says that, considering the long course of study that medical students have to prosecute and the comparatively poor pay on which they have to

serve Government, the recent order of the Bengal Government prohibiting any of its medical servants attached to a dispensary from maintaining any connection with any private dispensary will bear hard on the employés of this class of public officers. The effect of such stringent rules will be the exclusion of good men from the medical service.

DACCA PRAKASH,
July 2nd, 1893,

A Sub-Registrar in the Backergunge district.

39. According to the *Dacca Prakash* of the 2nd July, Babu Brindaban Chandra Basu, the Sub-Registrar of Patuakhali, in the Backergunge district, refuses to register on the most trivial grounds, many documents that are presented to him for registration. The writer has seen many such documents, and thinks that they are by no means unfit for registration. It is said that registration is refused on the ground that sufficient space is not left on the documents; but as there is no express direction in the law on this point, it is extremely unjust to return the papers unregistered, and in that way to subject the parties, who often come from long distances and have to make considerable expenses, to loss and inconvenience.

DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA,
July 2nd, 1893.

Probable consequences of the Currency settlement.

40. The *Dainik-o-Samachar Chandrika* of the 2nd July has the following:—

Government has at last had to lend its ear to the representations of the European Silver Merchants, and it seems that silver worth a large sum of money will be admitted into the marts and coined into rupees. If the new coinage law remains in force, Government will have to buy silver at a comparatively high price, and use it for currency purposes. But even if it does so, the price of silver will continue to fall everywhere. This cheapening of silver will affect India's trade relations with China and other countries having a silver currency. India's export trade in piece-goods with those countries is now worth 9 to 10 crores of rupees, and when in consequence of the cheapening of silver the rupee comes down to 10½ annas, the fall will mean a loss of some 3 to 4 crores of rupees to India. Moreover, the United States have threatened to abolish the Sherman Act, and if the threat is carried out the silver market will receive an accession of silver worth 24 crores of rupees, and the price of the metal will therefore go down lower still. If, again, as is not improbable, the Government of the United States out of spite against Great Britain takes to purchasing gold in large quantities, and thereby makes its price rise, until a tola of gold sells for Rs. 32, of what avail will the present measure be?

DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA,
July 5th, 1893.

The Settlement of the Currency question.

41. The *Dainik-o-Samachar Chandrika* of the 5th July has the following:—

According to many eminent authorities the supply of gold will in time be exhausted, and it will be then necessary to introduce only a silver currency in all the countries of the world. The soundness of this view cannot be questioned, and measures should therefore be adopted from this time forward to increase the silver currency of this country. Sir David Barbour, however, thinks that the question—what will happen when all the gold in the world is used up—possesses from a practical point of view little interest for the public. The writer cannot agree in this opinion, and believes that the step now taken by the Finance Minister will be productive of a fearful calamity in the future. In his efforts to remove a small present inconvenience, he is creating a huge difficulty which will have to be encountered at no distant date.

Sir David is wrong in his contention that there is no reason why India should be a loser by the adoption of a gold standard when other countries which have adopted that standard have not become losers. There can be no comparison between India and other countries. India is a poor country and cannot afford to have a gold currency or a gold standard. The country in which the average amount of money available for every person is less than Rs. 6 is not surely one for which a gold currency should be proposed by its Government.

If the measure now adopted by Government as a temporary arrangement be made permanent, the silver coins of the country will become only token coins, like the silver coins in England, and there will be no longer any fixity in their price. Their market price will diminish, and false coins will come into circulation. If that happens, Government and not the people will lose. Government may not have any objection to see a depreciation in the market value of its silver coins, but that is certainly not a desirable contingency. Another effect of the present measure will be to subject those who possess uncoined silver to considerable loss. Most people in this poor country possess uncoined silver in the shape of silver ornaments, and is it proper for Government to make the great majority of poor Indians poorer by means of such legislation as it has accomplished?

Sir David Barbour would seem to be of opinion that it is not wrong to subject a handful of persons to loss in order to benefit a whole country. But the writer thinks that this is an extremely bad principle, and that the loss which will be caused by the adoption of a gold standard will affect not a handful of persons, but a very large number of poor men. Would it not mean an utter ruin for the man whose whole property consists of one hundred rupees if he were made to lose half that amount? By its present solution of the Currency question Government is bringing utter ruin upon the large mass of people in this country who possess uncoined silver.

Government hopes that by stopping the free coinage of silver it will be able to attract to the market all the hoarded silver coins of the country. But the number of people who have such hoarded silver is extremely few. Again, considering that the object of the present legislation is to make an accumulation of gold coins and reduce the silver currency, it is not clear why Government should desire to see all the hoarded silver coins of the country out in the market. Why then stop the free coinage of silver?

Gold will not be collected in sufficiently large quantities in this country. No one will readily part with his hoarded gold, nor will much gold come from foreign countries. It is cheap goods that merchants generally deal in largely. It is because silver is cheap that it has been so largely imported into India, and it is because gold is dear that its import has not increased.

The settlement of the Currency question now made by Government will produce injurious consequences, and the writer firmly believes that it will have to be soon annulled. A policy of let alone would have been better than this unsatisfactory and injurious solution of the Currency difficulty. Government does not see this now, but will come to see it in time. Good advice is appreciated only when it has become stale. "You do not see it now; but you will see it when, entangled in the unending folds of the net of danger and difficulty, you find your very life in peril."

The Ganja Commission.

DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR CHANDRIKA, July 6th, 1893.

42. Speaking of the Ganja Commission, the *Dainik-o-Samachar Chandrika* of the 6th July approves of the appointment of the Raja of Tahirpur to the Commission, but adds that the constitution of the Commission would have been stronger if the Raja of Dubalhati, whose zamindari is the birth-place of ganja, had been taken into it.

III.—LEGISLATIVE.

The Bengal Chamber of Commerce in the Legislative Council.

SANJIVANI, July 1st, 1893.

43. *The Sanjivani* of the 1st July says that the Bengal Chamber of Commerce has been favoured with a great deal too much of a privilege which has been vouchsafed to no other influential public association in the country, inasmuch as it has been allowed to recommend a member for the Bengal Council as well as one for the Supreme Council. The authorities have not done well in showing such partiality and affection to their own countrymen.

The Road Cess law.

BANKURA DARPAN, July 1st, 1893.

44. The *Bankura Darpan* of the 1st July says that the Road Cess law stands in need of amendment. It does not make it at all clear how a man who has bought a property at a sale for arrears of the cess is to proceed in the matter of paying road cess dues and submitting road cess returns. The old rule under which purchasers in such cases were required to file returns every five years ought to be reinforced. Again, as notices of the sale of lands for road cess arrears are put up only in one of the many villages in which the lands lie, people do not often get any information of the same, and thus lands are therefore sold without their knowledge. To improve this state of things, the road cess law should be amended requiring zamindars to collect the Road Cess, and empowering them to recover from defaulters in the same way as arrears of rent are recovered.

DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR CHANDRIKA,
July 4th, 1893.

The working of the Consent Act.

45. The *Dainik-o-Samachar Chandrika* of the 4th July has the following:—

It has been clearly proved that the Consent Act was a piece of legislation absolutely uncalled for, and that it has done harm instead of good. Not a single case has occurred since its passing which could not be satisfactorily dealt with under the old law. And its passing has only been taken advantage of by some guardians and friends of girl-wives to falsely charge their husbands with the offence which has been made punishable under it and to get them punished. Cases have occurred in which, though there was no cohabitation and no offence, foolish girls have been prevailed upon to institute complaints, and it was not till medical evidence came to their rescue that the accused husbands could obtain an acquittal. The life-long separation of husband and wife, and the enforced widowhood to which the wife is subjected in such cases, are facts which have greatly pained Hindu society, and should also be noticed by Government with regret. There can be no question but that a law which has done no good and may do much harm ought not to have been passed at all, and being passed ought to be repealed at once.

V.—PROSPECTS OF THE CROPS AND CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

KASIPUR NIVASI,
June 29th, 1893.

The crops in the Barisal district.

46. The *Kasipurnivasi* of the 29th June says that the condition of the crops is very miserable in the Barisal district. Jute, beans, nuts, mangoes, &c., have been very nearly destroyed by hailstorms, and excessive rains and floods have ruined the prospects of paddy. The people are greatly distressed. Rice is getting dearer every day, and is now selling at 13 seers *kanchi* per rupee.

BANGAVASI,
July 1st, 1893.

Distress in the Raniganj subdivision.

47. The *Bangavasi* of the 1st July has learnt that, on the appearance of distress in the village Gopalpur, within the jurisdiction of the Raniganj subdivision of the Burdwan district, Mr. Windsor, the District Magistrate, after making a local investigation, ordered the excavation of a tank as a relief measure. The work has not, however, been undertaken owing to the heavy rains. In the meantime the Magistrate has ordered the distressed people to be employed in repairing the village road. But this petty repair work will not give employment to so large a number of men, and it is hoped that the excavation of the tank will be forthwith commenced.

SANJIVANI,
July 1st, 1893.

Consequences of excessive rainfall in the 24-Parganas district.

48. The *Sanjivani* of the 1st July says that, since the cyclonic weather in May last, the country between Magrahat on the one side, and Baishata and Dhosa on the other, an area of about 20 square miles, in the 24-Parganas district, has been lying completely under water to the serious injury of the crops. The only existing outlet for the enormous mass of water is the narrow channel of the Magrahat Canal, through which only a small volume of water has been passing slowly every day. And the incessant rains which have been since falling threaten to ruin the raiyats as well as the zamindars unless Government opens the embankment on the east side of this submerged tract in two or three places, namely, at the Rajpur, the Kharampura and the Telibari *bunds*. The opening of the *bunds* in these places will not injure the raiyats on the other side, nor will it entail any loss on Government. Rice is already selilng in Jaynagore at Rs. 3-8 and Rs. 3-12 per maund.

DACCA PRAKASH,
July 2nd, 1893.

Prospects of the crops in Dacca.

49. The *Dacca Prakash* of the 2nd July says that the heavy rains of the last seventeen days have blasted the prospects of the crops in many places. Excessive rainfall prevented the work of sowing in many places, while in many other places it has destroyed the crops that were sown. A fearful famine is apprehended next year. Government should be careful from this time, and instead of relying solely on the reports of the village chaukidar, should depute able and trustworthy officers to enquire and report on the state of the crops in different parts of the country.

VI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

BURDWAN SANJIVANI,
June 27th, 1893.

Sir A. P. MacDonnell.

50. The *Burdwan Sanjivani* of the 27th June has the following in regard to Sir A. P. MacDonnell:—

As Magistrate-Collector of Saran, between 1880-81, Sir Antony discharged the duties of his office with great credit. He stayed in the district for only one-and-a-half years, and during this short period he cultivated the acquaintance of all classes of people, including zamindars, talukdars, village mandals, and the ministerial officers employed under him. He used to punish the wicked and to protect the innocent irrespective of all consideratious of caste and colour. He would come to no conclusion upon hearsay information, and it was his practice to ascertain facts by personal enquiry. When starting on his mufassal tours he would take no chaprasi or constable with him. He would visit people in their villages, enquire into their conditon, and ask them whether or not they were suffering any oppression at the hands of the police and the zamindars and whether or not they had any cause for dissatisfaction. When information of any *zulm* or oppression by the police, the zamindars or the indigo-planters reached his ears, he took prompt remedial measures. He was strictly impartial in his dealings with the different sections of the people, and he made no distinction of native and European. Certain police officers of Saran were in the habit of grazing their cattle on corn-fields belonging to some raiyats, and when the latter brought this to the notice of Sir A. P. (then Mr.) MacDonnell, he transferred those officers elsewhere. He always treated the Honorary Magistrates and Municipal Commissioners with respect. During his time the roads in the district of Saran were kept in a good condition. He stopped the practice of attaching carriages and horses for road cess dues. In municipal and road cess meetings he never expressed his own views first and he always encouraged the members to express their own views freely. For these excellent qualities Sir Antony is still enshrined in the hearts of the people of Saran. As Chief Commissioner of the Central Provinces, too, he earned the love and respect of the people there. He is now sitting on the throne of Bengal, and the writer is anxious to see how he acts. Considering that Sir Antony has discharged with credit the duties of every office he has held, it is not likely that as Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal he will do anything improper.

KASIPUR NIVASI,
June 29th, 1893.

51. The *Kasipurnivasi*, of the 29th June, has the following:—

The Barisal Municipality.

(1) There should be more than two scavenger carts to remove the refuse matter in Barisal town.

(2) As the roads of the town are not well connected with one another, the following connections, &c., should be effected:—

(*a*) The lane north of the Kalibari should be connected with the street which goes westward from the jail, or the road by the side of Behari Babu's College should be widened and connected with the main road.

(*b*) The road which issues from the main road and goes by the southern side of the Kalibari tank should be joined with the road in front of Navakisore Babu's lodgings.

(*c*) The street from the main road passing by the eastern side of Ganimiya's tank as far as *fakirbari* should meet with the road in front of Navakisore Babu's lodgings.

(*d*) The old bridge over the jail canal on the eastern side of Chakbazar should be demolished and a new one should be built at the place where the new line road will meet the canal.

(*e*) The road which now passes by the western side of the late Golam Ali Chowdhuri's lodgings and meets the Kasthapatti road should be extended and connected with the Perara road.

SUDHAKAR,
June 30th, 1893.

52. The *Sudhakar*, of the 30th June, says that Mr. Paul's Civil Service Resolution will prove exceedingly beneficial to India. Poor as they are, the Indians cannot afford to incur the expenditure required for the purpose of going all the way to England to the Civil Service Examination. The Hindu, moreover, has his fear of losing his caste and religion by visiting England, and the Muhammadan who visits that country is not altogether free from fear on that score, because an English visit has a denationalising effect upon him too. Some Hindus have still entered the Civil Service by the door of competition, but not a single Muhammadan has yet succeeded in becoming a Civilian, for the Mussulman is poorer than the Hindu. The backward state of education among the Muhammadan community also makes it impossible for Muhammadan boys to go to England to pass the Civil Service Examination at the age fixed for it. The few Muhammadan youths who have made the attempt have all been unsuccessful. There is more merit

The Civil Service question.

among the poorer than among the wealthier classes, but the poor have not the means to send their boys to England.

There has appeared a statement in that anti-native paper, the *Pioneer*, to the effect that the Muhammadan community of India are opposed to Mr. Paul's proposal, and that they will protest against it. But nothing could be further from the truth. There is not a single Muhammadan in India so worthless as to protest against Mr. Paul's Resolution. Not a single Muhammadan has been yet able to pass the Civil Service in England; but it is certain that some Muhammadans, no matter how many, will be able to pass the Civil Service Examination if it is held in India. And the Muhammadans will not certainly willingly or wilfully lose such an advantage.

BANGAVASI,
July 1st, 1893.

The Civil Service Examination question.

53. The following is an extract from an article in the *Bangavasi* of the 1st July:—

The Government of India has been referred to on the subject of the Parliamentary Resolution regarding the Indian Civil Service Examination. There is no knowing what the decision of that Government will be, but there are without doubt many points to be considered in this connection. The main point is whether natives will, after passing the examination in this country, be admitted into the service in this country, or will be required to go to England to obtain their appointments. The writer will not agree to any arrangement which will make it obligatory for the successful native candidates to go to England for even a day, because the country will gain nothing by such an arrangement, though it will lose much on account of it. It is certainly no trifling matter for a man to have to lose his religion, his caste and his nearest and dearest relatives simply for the sake of getting into service. There are already in the Civil Service a number of so-called Hindus, but they are more imitation Sahebs than Hindus. The fact is, if Government wants the administration to be carried on by Sahebs, its object will be better gained by employing real than imitation Sahebs. And an arrangement requiring the natives who pass the Civil Service Examination in this country to visit England will only increase the number of imitation Sahebs in the service.

The writer must say in conclusion that it is not simultaneous Civil Service Examinations in India and England that the people of this country are so much in need of. They will be fully satisfied if Parliament or the Government kindly sets apart for them a certain number of appointments in the Civil Service at a lower pay than what is received by English Civilians.

DACCA PRAKASH,
July 2nd, 1893.

Hinduism judged by the census.

54. The *Dacca Prakash* of the 2nd July has the following:—The Christian will not suffer any privation or practise any austerities for the sake of his religion, and laughs at the fasting and abstemious Hindu who denies himself even the ordinary comforts of life. The fact is, for the purpose of attaining health and longevity, the Christian takes greater care of his body than of his soul. But it is clearly seen from the last census report that of the different communities that inhabit India, the Hindus are the healthiest and the longest lived. According to the last census, the total number of Hindus of all ages in India is 207,688,724, of Mussalmans 57,321,164, of Christians 2,284,380, and of Bhuddhists and others 287,223,431; that is to say, the number of Hindus is about 91 times that of Christians and about 3·62 times that of Mussalmans. And of the total number of people whose age is 60 years and upwards, there are 10,953,527 who are Hindus, 2,737,352 who are Mussalmans, and 97,839 who are Christians. This shows that the ratio which the number of Hindus of all ages bears either to that of Mussalmans or to that of Christians of all ages is considerably less than that which the number of Hindus aged 60 years or more bears either to the number of Mussalmans or to that of Christians of that age. To put it in a different form: If the two ratios had been the same, Hindus of 60 years old would have numbered only 2,737,352 (the number of Mussalmans of that age) × 3·62 or 9,922,866, but as a matter of fact their number is larger by 1,030,661. Similarly, if the two ratios had been the same as between the Hindu and the Christian population of India, the number of Hindus aged 60 years and more would have come up to only 97,839 (the number of Christians of that age) × 91 or 8,903,349, but as a matter of fact their number is 2,050,178 in excess of that figure. This shows that, if all

Hindus had been Mussalmans, that excess number namely, 1,030,661 persons, would have died before attaining their sixtieth year, and that if all Hindus had been Christians, 2,050,178 persons would have died before attaining that age. All glory to the Hindu religion which has enabled such a large number of its followers to live up to an old age. "And is it for the purpose of killing so many people that you, O! Christians, are laying the trap of your religion at the Hindu's door?"

Another fact disclosed by the census figures is that, compared with the number of Mussalmans and Christians, the number of Hindus shows a steady increase from the age of 20 years. There is indeed a large mortality among Hindu children, but childhood passed, the Hindu goes on acquiring vitality and strength.

Cooly oppression in the tea gardens.

DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR CHANDRIKA,
July 2nd, 1893.

55. The *Dainik-o-Samachar-Chandrika* of the 2nd July refers to the case of Mr. Murray, the Sylhet planter, recently disposed of by the High Court, and makes the following observations:—

Let the Viceroy, the authorities in England, the members of the Viceregal Council, who spoke in favour of the planters during the passage of the Inland Emigration Act through the legislature, and Sir Philip Hutchins, who on the same occasion sung the praises of the planters with a hundred tongues, now see what oppression is perpetrated in the tea-gardens under British rule. He who has one drop of the milk of human kindness in his heart must admit that gross oppression is perpetrated on helpless coolies in the tea-gardens. It is the writer's belief that there are lots of Murrays in those gardens, though only one of them has been found out, and he has not the the slightest doubt that there are in many of the gardens men who are no better than the old *Merkin* slave owners.

ASSAM PAPERS.

Fees in the Assam zilla schools.

PARIDARSHAK
First Fortnight of Asar.

56. The *Paridarshak*, for the first fortnight of Asar 1300 B.S., says that the Assam Government seems to have contrived a means of exacting an education tax from the people in the shape of heavy fees in the zilla schools. Considering the poverty of the people of Sylhet, the writer cannot approve of the proposal of Government to raise the fees by eight annas in all the classes of the Sylhet zilla school.

CHUNDER NATH BOSE,
Bengali Translator.

BENGALI TRANSLATOR'S OFFICE,
The 8*th July* 1893.